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looks forward to the conclusion of treaties of similar scope with other European powers. The second section of the act of April 18, 1900, empowers the minister of finance to conclude conventions and issue regulations governing the liability to direct taxation of persons and property subject to the tax jurisdiction of more than one state, providing such arrangements are based on the principle of reciprocity.

All this is admirable and promising. It foreshadows the opening of a new field for the exercise of the diplomacy of reciprocity. We hear much these days of world-industry, world-commerce, worldmarkets. The business economy of the twentieth century is clearly destined to become increasingly international with each decade. Just as clearly do these changes in the economic organization of the modern world demand fiscal reciprocity as their correlate. Few conclusions are more strongly enforced by the history of industry and taxation than that good fiscal arrangements help, as bad ones certainly hinder, the natural growth of trade and industry. Much has been accomplished during the past century in the way of simplification and systemetization of the machinery of taxation, but a vast deal still remains. And nowhere, it is to be remarked, are the conditions of the problem clearer, nowhere do they point more surely to the appropriate and effective solution, than in the region of double taxation by competing authorities. Prussia and Austria have showed the way. Will other countries have the wisdom to follow?

A. C. MILLER.

## THE GERMAN TARIFF CONTROVERSY."

These two controversial publications are selected, out of a deluge of polemical writings, as typical and authoritative summaries of the arguments and appeals to interest on both sides of the question which divides the German people. Whatever the Reichstag decides to do the controversy is sure to proceed, for its causes lie deep in the conflicting interests and beliefs of parties. Schäffle and Wagner represent with supreme ability views which are wide apart. Professor

<sup>1</sup> Agra- und Industriestaat. Eine Auseinandersetzung mit den Nationalsozialen und mit Professor L. Brentano über die Kehrseite des Industriestaates, und zur Rechtfertigung agrarischen Zollschutzes. By Adolph Wagner. (Jena: Gustav Fischer, 1901.)

Ein Votum gegen den neuesten Zolltarifentwurf. By D. A. Schäffle. (Tübingen: H. Laupp, 1901.)

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Wagner will not admit that it is a choice between the industrial and agrarian policy, but a question of equilibrium of interests. the system of manufactures and commerce has been favored at the expense of agriculture; great fortunes have been made in cities and laborers have been attracted away from the country to degenerate in crowded dwellings. The time may come, at this rate, when Germany, exposed by war, will not be able to provide food for its people; or, beaten out of the world's market will have no outlet for its industries. The remedy is, high tariff on imported grain and meat, so that prices will rise, farming become profitable, capital and labor flow to rural pursuits, and equilibrium be established. Dr. Schäffle, the veteran economist and politician, concentrates his attack on the positions of Professor Wagner. He contends that the new tariff would, by raising prices of food, lower the conditions of life for all classes; that the Agrarians have no sufficient ground for hoping that the advance in prices will fill their pockets; that at best, only the richer landlords could gain any advantage, and that these gentlemen are not suffering but prosperous; that the farmers who are burdened with debt would not be relieved; that there are better and wiser measures for helping agriculture, such as organization of credit; that this measure, since it will increase the cost of living in cities, will arouse bitter partisan and class hostilities and lead to profound constitutional changes; and that, in the negotiation of commercial treaties, this tariff will erect unsurmountable obstacles and excite relentless retaliation.

Apparently the central point on which both writers agree is in a certain hate and dread of the vast industrial and commercial organizations which now characterize American economic life, and which they think to be as dangerous to America as to the peace and prosperity of European peoples, unless they can be brought under some sort of control by public opinion and social regulation.

C. R. HENDERSON.

## AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION AND GERMAN POLICY.

Two pamphlets have come to hand devoted to the same problem, which has of late years been agitating the public mind in Germany, How to deal with foreign competition in agriculture?<sup>1</sup> The subject is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Die internationale landwirtschaftliche Konkurrenz: Ein kapitalistisches Problem. By Dr. Gustav Ruhland. (Berlin: Ernst Hofmann & Co., 1901.)

Die Industrialisierung der Landwirtschaft. Nebst einer Antwort auf die Frage: Brotzoll oder Handlesverträge. By Dr. Niemetzki. (Berlin: Ernst Hofmann & Co., 1901.)